

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Arizona Division of USA Fencing
June 7, 2014 Fencer's Club of Arizona, Chandler, AZ

Attendance:

Joel Breshin, Paul Hicha, Lloyd C. Wright, Michael Poppre, Wayne Johnson, Michelle Harrill, Andrew Bolton, Catherine Bolton, Juanita Miller, Rita Edler, James Fowler, Donovan Deans, Robin Arroyo, William Becker (Big Will), Michelle, Becker, Bill Becker, Nina Linder + Phillip Ritchie via Facetime. (Meeting Quorum minimum of 11 voting members was met.)
Poxy count - 23

Call to Order 1:07PM

Reports:

Chairman Recap (Bill Becker):

Bill thanked everyone for making the time to attend this year's annual meeting and promised to make it as brief as possible. He noted the absence of Pat Wapples and shared with the division that she had recently suffered a heart attack but is well on the mend. He thanked everyone for their participation this season and for supporting the division. He recapped the divisional events of the season – JO Qualifiers, Summer Nationals Qualifiers and highlighting the success of US Fencing again being brought back to the Arizona State Games. Bill also briefly mentioned the implementation of the new division website that took place this season.

Vice Chair (Phillip Ritchie):

Phillip joined us via Facetime as he is has been out of state since May and will not be returning until sometime in August.

Treasure Report (Jay Fowler)

Jay pointed out that there was a net gain this season and that copies of the treasury report were being passed around the room. Jay noted that the two charges for the website were the changes that we made this season in securing a domain name (arizonafencingdivision.org) that belonged exclusively to the division and was not attached to any others individual or personal accounts with Go Daddy. We have a 5 year contract so we will not be seeing an annual charge for that service. The secondary website charge is for securing the webhosting that we now operate through WordPress.

Secretary Report (Nina Linder)

Nina gave a brief report on membership count. There are 11 member clubs. US Fencing records show that as of February (the date that all members must be registered by to be considered voting members for the season) there were 353 members registered in Arizona consisting of 115 Females (33%) and 238 Males (67%). The breakdown is as follows: 164 Competitive, 2 Competitive-Professional, 7 Life, 133 Non-competitive, 1 Non-Competitive-Professional, 35 Professional, 8 Supporting, 3 Supporting – Professional.

Open Discussion:

1. Upcoming changes by US Fencing:

There are a number of changes being instituted by US Fencing. One is that going forward all events listed in askfred.net are considered "sanctioned" and everyone must have a US Fencing membership or purchase a one day pass for the event. Our division had an incident at an event that there were classification changes earned but US Fencing did not want to process those classification changes because in a different age category for a

different event at the same tournament there were youth fencers that competed that did not have membership numbers. (These fencers did not fence in the event that had classification changes but US Fencing still felt there was a violation because the event on askfred showed nonmembers fenced.) Going forward all fencers need to have a membership or purchase a one day pass OR if you are going to have a “non-sanctioned event” please have that event listed as a separate tournament in askfred.

2. A “Tournament Improvement Plan” was announced by US Fencing in March of this season. A link to the announcement by US Fencing has been on the division website but there was a lot of discussion below are the highlights discussed today:
 - There are changes to the qualifications paths for national events, beginning in the 2014-2015 season there will be Points Based Qualifications (PBQ) for all National Championship Tournaments.
 1. Junior Olympics
 2. Division 1 Nationals
 3. US Fencing National Championships

The feeling is that Regional Qualifiers will probably “go away” in the next 2-3years

- Y10 and Y12 will be part of the National Championships starting next season.
 - In addition to ROC's there will now be RJCC' s (Regional Junior Cadet Circuit).
3. Calendar for next season discussion.

Given that we have to wait on US Fencing to announce their full schedule with the changes that they are implementing our division will put its calendar together as soon as we have that information and can coordinate the Executive Committee and Officers schedules. Pat Wapples requested to host the Prescott Fall Classic again over Labor Day weekend - that will be the first event of the season on our calendar. The division will make the full calendar available on or before that tournament.
 4. Inventory supply

Robyn Arroyo provided a list of inventory that is currently being stored at Phoenix Falcons for the division. Phoenix Falcons has offered to continue to store the equipment for the division. There was discussion on how several of the items are in need of repair and that some items are missing and had not been used this season. Phillip and Jay are going to do a full inventory of the broken and missing parts and see what needs to be done so that we start the 2014/2015 season the necessary and listed items.
 5. Lloyd Wright asked the group if they would be interested in having a seminar at a local or divisional event on Common Fencing Injuries – Prevention and Management. The seminar would be led by Dr. Carfagno a premier sports medicine doctor in the Phoenix area and Lloyd (a member of the National Board of Acupuncture Orthopedics). The consensus way yes so Lloyd will continue his conversation with Dr. Carfagno and try to coordinate schedules for an event during the 2014/2015 season.
 6. There was a discussion about setting up a Facebook page for divisional information as a communication tool to connect and appeal to a larger since so many people check Facebook several times a day vs seeking information on a website. Jay Fowler will set up the page to get the ball rolling and have it all up and running for the 2014/2015

season - the page needs to remain solely for the purpose of promoting the division. Individual clubs need to remember to promote their activities on their own page.

Motions:

There was a motion made by Michael Poppre to waive the \$5.00 fee that goes to the division. The motion was seconded by Robin Arroyo. Vote was unanimous.

Elections:

Nominations for the Board of Directors for the 2014/2015 season were taken from the floor.

Chairman:

Donovan Deans nominated William Becker, Jay Fowler seconded. Bill called for the vote. Bill was elected

Vice Chair:

Jay Fowler nominated Phillip Ritchie, Bill seconded. Philip was elected

Treasurer:

Bill nominated Jay Fowler, Andrew Bolton seconded. Jay was elected

Secretary:

Micki Becker nominated Nina Linder, Lloyd Wright seconded. Nina was elected

Meeting Adjourned